

Honorable John C. Coughenour  
Honorable Richard A. Jones

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
ALAN GOMEZ-MARENTES, et al.,  
Defendants.

CASE NO. CR20-092JCC

**NOTICE OF RELATED CASES**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
CESAR VALDEZ-SANUDO, et al.,  
Defendant.

NO. CR20-217JCC

**NOTICE OF RELATED CASES**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
Plaintiff,  
v.  
EDGAR LUNA-GARCIA,  
Defendant.

NO. CR20-091RAJ

**NOTICE OF RELATED CASES**

Comes now the United States of America, by Tessa M. Gorman, Acting United  
States Attorney for the Western District of Washington, and Amy Jaquette, Assistant

**NOTICE OF RELATED CASES**

*United States v. ALAN GOMEZ-MARENTES, et al.*, CR20-092JCC  
*United States v. CESAR VALDEZ-SANUDO, et al.*, CR20-217JCC  
*United States v. EDGAR LUNA-GARCIA, et al.*, CR20-91RAJ – 1

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1 United States Attorney for said District, and respectfully submits the following Notice of  
 2 Related Cases pursuant to Local Criminal Rule 13(a) and (b). The three cases captioned  
 3 above are related cases.

4 On July 23, 2020, the Grand Jury charged 19 members of a large drug trafficking  
 5 organization (DTO) with one count of Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Substances, in  
 6 violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1) and 846 (Count  
 7 1), and charged a subset of those individuals with one count of Possession with Intent to  
 8 Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections  
 9 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1) and 846 (Count 2), among other crimes. (CR20-092JCC, Dkt. 1.)  
 10 On this same date, the Grand Jury charged Edgar LUNA-GARCIA in a separate  
 11 indictment with one count of Conspiracy to Distribute Controlled Substances, in violation  
 12 of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1) and 846 (Count 1) and one  
 13 count of Possession with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21,  
 14 United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1) and 846 (Count 2). (CR20-091RAJ,  
 15 Dkt. 1.) The same facts formulate the basis of Counts 1 and 2 in both case CR20-092JCC  
 16 and CR20-091RAJ. On July 28, 2020, agents arrested many of the indicted defendants  
 17 during a coordinated takedown of the investigation. LUNA-GARCIA was not arrested,  
 18 as his whereabouts were unknown until recently. On August 7, 2020, the grand jury  
 19 returned a Superseding Indictment charging a number of substantive counts and one  
 20 additional defendant. (CR20-092JCC, Dkt. 152.)

21 This takedown was the culmination of more than a year of investigation into a  
 22 drug trafficking organization (DTO) distributing multi-kilo quantities of narcotics in  
 23 Western Washington. The investigation was led by the Drug Enforcement  
 24 Administration, in partnership with Homeland Security Investigations, the Bureau of  
 25 Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.  
 26 The investigation began in January 2019 and involved numerous periods of court-  
 27  
 28

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1 authorized wiretaps, controlled purchases of drugs using confidential sources, and  
 2 hundreds of hours in physical and electronic surveillance.

3 At the time of the takedown in CR20-092 JCC, investigators elected to hold off on  
 4 indicting (or arresting) a subset of the targets of the investigation – specifically, Cesar  
 5 VALDEZ-SANUDO and his criminal associates. Rather, agents continued to investigate  
 6 this group of individuals and received court-authorization to conduct additional wiretaps.

7 On December 9, 2020, the Grand Jury returned an Indictment charging this subset  
 8 of the larger investigation in a separate conspiracy. This Indictment charged 11 members  
 9 of a drug trafficking organization (DTO) with one count of Conspiracy to Distribute  
 10 Controlled Substances, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1),  
 11 841(b)(1) and 846 (Count 1), and two of those individuals in a related count of  
 12 Conspiracy to Commit Money Laundering (Count 3), in violation of Title 18, United  
 13 States Code, Section 1956. (CR20-217JCC, Dkt. 1.)<sup>1</sup> On December 16, 2020, agents  
 14 arrested the 11 indicted defendants during a coordinated takedown of the investigation.

15 On March 8, 2021, the Court held an initial appearance for Edgar LUNA-  
 16 GARCIA after his arrest on the indictment in CR20-091RAJ.

17 All three of these cases are related, as they rely in large part on the same wiretap  
 18 pleadings, involve common co-conspirators, and contain instances of overlapping  
 19 surveillance. Due the overlap between the three cases, the United States files this notice  
 20 of related cases and requests that all three cases be assigned to the same judge. As noted  
 21 above, Counts 1 and 2 against LUNA-GARCIA arise from the same facts as Counts 1  
 22 and 2 in CR20-092JCC. As a result, the United States intends to supersede the  
 23 indictment in CR20-092JCC to add LUNA-GARCIA as a defendant. Although the  
 24 United States does not intend to seek to join CR20-217JCC with CR20-091RAJ and  
 25 CR20-092JCC for trial, it does seek to litigate any challenges to the underlying  
 26

27 <sup>1</sup> This case was originally assigned to the Honorable Richard A. Jones; the Court reassigned the case to the  
 28 Honorable John C. Coughenour after the United States filed a Notice of Related cases.

#### NOTICE OF RELATED CASES

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1 investigation – which will necessarily rely on common issues of law and fact – before the  
2 same Court.

3 DATED this 16th day of March, 2021.

4  
5 Respectfully submitted,

6 TESSA M. GORMAN  
7 Acting United States Attorney

8 /s/ Amy Jaquette

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